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Finance Committee

Joint Committees

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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
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Testimony of Senator Joanne C. Benson  
SB 660: Income Tax - Caregiver Tax Credit

Good Afternoon Chair Guzzone, Vice-Chair Rosapepe, and members of The Budget and Taxation Committee. I am here to present SB0660 Income Tax – Caregiver Tax Credit.

This legislation is critical to give caregivers financial and economic support in Maryland. Caregivers are the backbone of our society. They represent selflessness, patience, compassion, and dependability. Caregivers are responsible for the physical and emotional support of someone who can no longer care for themselves due to illness, injury, or disability. In addition, caregivers play an essential role in supporting individuals to function at their highest capability. Being a caregiver often includes providing support with financial and legal affairs for their family members. Moreover, Caregivers endure significant monetary consequences regarding both direct cash-based expenses and long-term financial and retirement security.

This bill's purpose is to allow certain caregivers a tax credit against state income tax for qualifying expenses paid or incurred during a taxable year. As an income tax credit for caregivers, this expertise must be directly related to family members.

This bill helps caregivers by straightforwardly reducing how much taxes they owe in a taxable year. Doing so will empower caregivers to have more financial resources to support themselves and their loved ones.

Thus, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a favorable report for SB0660.